∴ News of Virginia ∴

BEAT POLICE COMMISSIONER.

Outrageous Assault By Two Men At Portsmouth.

Norfolk (Special). — Because he reproved two tipsy men for insulting a lady on the street in Portsmouth, Police Commissioner Corbell Dashiell was beaten and his wife, just convalescent after an attack of typhoid fever, was murderously assaulted with a piece of iron pipe.

After they were rescued by Mr. Dashiell for their improper behavior the men passed on, but they returned a few minutes later and, entering the Commissioner's office, beat him unmercifully, dragging him into the street to complete the punishment. Mrs. Dashiell came out and protested, whereupon one of the men seized a piece of iron pipe and struck her on the head with it.

An angry crowd followed the men, who showed fight, but who were finally over-powered and locked up. They gave their names as Robert Radcliff and Thomas Dowdy.

NEW "JIM-CROW" RULES.

U. S. Judge Waddill Issues Them In Richmond.

Richmond, (Special).—Judge Edwin Waddill, Jr., of the United States District Court, has issued instructions to William Northrop and Henry T. Wickham, receivers for the Virginia Passenger and Power Company, promulgating new rules and regulations regarding the separation of the races on the street cars.

Under the new rules no smoking is to be allowed hereafter except on the platforms of the cars; this requirement applying to cigars as well as closed cars. The separation of the races will continue, but all passengers must be given full warning by the conductors before an arrest is made for failure to comply with the requirements.

The new rules are to become effective this week. The regulations were made necessary on account of the number of arrests of colored persons recently for failure to properly comply with the requirements.

LIGHTNING KILLS TWO.

Women Victims Of Severe Electrical Storm.

Suffolk (Special).—A most severe electrical storm passed over this section. Near Holland, the wife of John Scott, and her daughter, Mary Scott, aged twenty, colored, were struck by lightning while in the field. Mrs. Mary Scott was holding in her lap an infant, which was thrown eight feet, the escaped without injury. The house was partially demolished.

The store of Alverson & Johnson, at Copeland, was struck, and Thomas Pierce, a salesman, was stunned.

In Suffolk one dwelling was hit and the weather boards were torn away, but no one was injured. Joseph Cook, a brakeman on the Norfolk and Southern Railway, was struck and seriously burned about face, neck and arms.

TRAINS CRASH IN TUNNEL.

Wreck Due To Misunderstanding Of Orders.

Lynchburg (Special). — An eastbound coal train and a west-bound freight, each drawn by two engines, came into collision in the center of the Norfolk and Western tunnel, near this city. It is alleged that the engineer of the freight misunderstood his orders. The front engines of both trains were wrecked, as also were two cars of merchandise and the track was blocked for nine hours.

Frank Kirkwood, of Clifton, a fireman on the west-bound train, was the only man injured. He was taken to a hospital, where one foot was amputated, and probably he will eventually lose the other.

Explosion Injures Girls.

Richmond.— Louise and Grace Kahn, eleven and three years of age, respectively, daughters of J. Kahn, an employe of the Armour Packing Company, were severely injured by the explosion of a railway torpedo, which was given them by a boy, who told them to strike it with a rock. The elder of the children placed the torpedo explosive between her knees on the ground and pounded it with a stone. An explosion followed, both little girls being knocked down, but not fatally, hurt. The boy ran away and his name is not known.

Father And Son Killed.

Roanoke (Special).—A special from Galax, Pulaski County, tells of the killing by a train of Alexander Hudnall, a young farmer, and his father, James Hudnall, at a crossing that place.

Alexander Richardson, who was of unsound mind, was being taken by his father from Pulaski to their home, at Galax. While walking near the railroad track young Richardson broke away from his father and dashed himself in front of an approaching freight train. He was ground to pieces. The father, in an attempt to save his son, was so badly injured that he died in four hours.

Expects To Be Elected Speaker.

Winchester (Special). — Advices received from all over the State clearly indicate that Assemblyman Richard E. Byrd, who represents Winchester and Frederick County in the Virginia House of Delegates, will be elected Speaker of the next House, succeeding Speaker Campbell, who has retired from the Legislature. Out of at least ten Democratic members of the House, more than 50 are now pledged to Mr. Byrd, making his election a foregone conclusion.

Boy Killed By Pitchfork.

Leesburg (Special).—Frank Campbell, aged about seventeen years, son of William Campbell, a well-known farmer of this section, lost his life while threshing wheat on the Morris farm, about three miles east of Leesburg. Passing around a loaded wagon, he was struck in the right temple by the prong of a fork thrown from the top of the load by Wade Barnhouse.

The prong entered the brain, and death resulted within a short time, and before medical assistance could be sent from Leesburg.

EXPOSITION IS MOVING ALONG.

Director Barr Is Getting It Out Of A Rut.

Jamestown (Special). — Director General Barr is taking hold of the Exposition in no uncertain manner and the changes predicted are now beginning to take place. Announcement was made that Mr. W. E. Dixon, chief of the department of electricity, has been appointed an assistant to Mr. Barr, while Mr. John A. Wakefield has been appointed to take charge of the concessions and admissions department to take the place of B. F. Davidson, who will resign. Mr. Barr has also taken hard blows at passes into the grounds. He has issued orders that henceforth there must be most excellent reason why passes are issued. This will be keenly felt by many who have been enjoying these privileges.

The Exposition Company is now conducting an extensive advertising campaign under the direction of Stephen W. Bolles. The company has also taken over a large vacant lot on the Warpath and has converted it into an amusement park where at night a number of free acts are given for the benefit of the public. For the first two weeks of August a "loop-the-loop" has been secured. In the meantime high wire and acrobatic stunts fill the bill. The popularity of the fireworks displays is being considered for a night feature.

Mr. Barr is negotiating with the various railroads to make a further reduction in rates in order to attract people here.

One of the liveliest conventions that will be held at the Exposition during the month of August will be that of the Jolly Joker Club, which holds its annual session at the Terrapin Hotel, August 15. It is a big organization, which is the largest purely social club in existence, having 2,000 members and a fraternational in scope, the delegates from the Sandwich Islands, Ceylon and other countries having already started for the Exposition to participate in the coming convention.

To arouse interest in the convention a contest was arranged some time ago whereby the two most popular Confederates were to be sent free to the Exposition, the winners to be decided by a popular vote of the entire organization. The two contestants here are Mr. Floyd McCormack, of Richmond, Ind., and Miss Nellie C. Lee Cain, of Washington, D. C.

A feature of the convention at the Exposition will be the selection of members of the club to attend the "Mardi Gras Section" to be held at New Orleans at the next Mardi Gras. All members of the club have numbers, and at the Tercentennial convention the three hundred numbers will be called "Bluebirds," and those with odd numbers, "Redbirds." These two factions will have regular headquarters at the Tercentennial, and each side will carry pennants showing their respective colony and will plan all manner of novelties to worry each other. In this manner the club lives up to its motto, which is to "Always look on the bright side," its constant aim being to promote cheerfulness and happiness among its members.

KILLED AFTER CHASE.

Edward Davis Shot To Death After Escaping From Mob.

Richmond (Special).—The escape of Edward Davis and Roy Seals, two negroes who were confined at the state farm, was attended with unusual incidents. The men asked to be allowed to clean their cells, and when the door was opened Davis made a lunge at one of the guards. The negroes took the officer's gun, and with it made their escape to the assistance of the other guard he in turn was attacked by Seals.

Both guards were badly beaten and bitten by the negroes, who immediately got out of the building and made a break for freedom. They had not been gone but a few minutes when bloodhounds and several officers started on the trail. The men are from Louisa County, holding up several people on the road and demanding food at the point of their guns. The officers followed closely, coming up to the men near Pendleton, Goodman, one of the officers, called on the men to halt, a command covering one and Goodman the other. The men broke for the woods, taking the guns which they had taken from the guards at the farm with them.

The two officers fired, but they did not follow up the men, fearing an attack from ambush. In the scurrying they went through the woods and found the dead body of Davis. Seals is still at large, with officers in pursuit. He is regarded as a desperado and will be shot on sight.

Best-Bert At Norfolk.

Norfolk (Special).—Seven races of best-bert have developed in the last week on the ships of the Brazilian squadron in this harbor. They have been removed to the Portsmouth Hospital.

Two are said to be in a critical condition. The disease is attracting widespread attention among local physicians.

Woman Attempts Suicide.

Winchester (Special).—A young woman, giving her name as Janette Wilcox, who is also known here as Helen Miller, attempted to commit suicide on the street by swallowing a large quantity of bichloride of mercury. Her cries attracted the attention of several men, and she was at once taken to a physician's office. By hard work her life was saved.

The girl is said to be a native of Washington. She has lived here for several years.

Ice Trust Investigation.

Richmond (Special).—Judge Samuel Witt, of the Hustings Court, in his charge to the grand jury instructed that body to investigate the allegation that an ice trust is operating in Richmond and controlling the price and delivery of that commodity. If there is any prospect of finding evidence to support the popular impression that the fine dealers of Richmond are operating as a trust the grand jury will sit all summer to find it out, declared Commonwealth's Attorney Minitree Folkes.

BAD LUCK HITS CONTRACTOR.

Elbert Tatterson, Of Norfolk, Goes Under.

Norfolk (Special).—Elbert Tatterson, contractor and builder, who had been awarded the contract for the new $225,000 Naval Y. M. C. A. Building here, the gift of John D. Rockefeller, and the subject of contractor and builder in Norfolk, filed a petition in voluntary bankruptcy, placing his liabilities at $200,513. The petitioner's assets are placed at $248,371.

Inability to collect amounts due him upon different contracts and to realize on various stocks held in enterprises of various kinds is given as the cause of the failure.

Mr. Tatterson has built and was building some of Norfolk's largest and finest structures. He also had considerable out-of-town work, being at the time of his failure engaged in erecting the new Gibbs preserving plant, in Baltimore, and a new plant for the Stone Printing and Publishing Company, at Roanoke.

Counsel for Mr. Tatterson could not say what effect the failure would have on the Rockefeller Naval Y. M. C. A. contract. It is hoped to so adjust matters that Mr. Tatterson may proceed with this after his adjudication as a bankrupt.

DERAILED TO AVOID CRASH.

Engine And Mail Train Thrown From Track.

Fredericksburg (Special). — The Seaboard Air Line train due here at 10.39 o'clock A. M., was derailed as it started on the north end of the bridge over the Rappahannock River at this place. The engine turned over and one mail car was thrown off the track. As the train neared the bridge the engineer noticed the block closed. He applied the brakes, but they did not work properly and the train went through the block and the engine was purposely derailed, narrowly avoiding a collision with a freight train on the bridge.

Richard O'Brien, the engineer, one of the oldest in the service of the road, was pinned under the cab of the engine and was seriously injured. His foot was crushed, his head cut, and his body painfully burned. John Hargrove, the fireman, was slightly injured. The passengers were unhurt. Physicians from this city were summoned and the wounds of the engineer and fireman were dressed. Engineer O'Brien was taken to the Mary Washington Hospital here. The track was blocked for several hours.

New Development Company.

Harrisonburg (Special).—The state corporation commission issued a charter to the Bridgewater Development Company, of Bridgewater, this county. The capital is $50,000, which has been placed. The purpose of the company is to prospect and develop coal and oil lands principally close to Bridgewater. Work will be commenced about the first of June. All of the stockholders are prominent business men of Bridgewater.

False Pretenses Charged.

Norfolk (Special).—Fred H. Blake, who operates employment agencies here and at Richmond and at Pine Beach, Chesapeake Beach and Ocean View, was arrested on the charge of obtaining money under false pretenses. Warrants have been issued against him.

The complainants declare that Blake took money from them on promise that he would get them employment, which they say he failed to do.

Sadler Withdraws From Contest.

Richmond (Special).—Joseph P. Sadler, of Powhatan County, who represented the Democratic district in the State senate, has withdrawn from the contest. This leaves as the only candidate Hon. John B. Watkins, of Chesterfield County.

VIRGINIA OBITUARY.

Roanoke.—Mrs. Virginia A. Pace, wife of Sanitary Inspector S. W. Pace, died at the home of her son, survived by her husband, one son, and three stepsons.

Luray.—Elder Joseph Foster, a well-known minister of the Christian of Page County, died at his home, four miles south of Luray. Elder Foster was in the seventy-seventh year of age, and leaves a widow and several children.

Fredericksburg.—Mrs. Mary Frances Mountjoy, wife of the late Henry Mountjoy, died at the home of her son, William G. Mountjoy, at Garrisonville, in Stafford County, aged eighty-four years. She is survived by one son, one daughter, and one brother.

Staunton.—Mrs. F. W. Litman, wife of a grocery merchant here, died, aged fifty-two years.

Norfolk.—Robert E. Whitehead died suddenly on the street here from heart failure. He was sixty-seven years old. He was sanitary inspector of Suffolk, and was a member of the Forty-first Virginia Infantry during the civil war. He is survived by a widow, one daughter, and one son.

VIRGINIA WEDDINGS.

Fredericksburg.—William Baxter and Miss Nellie Baxter, both of Spotsylvania County, were married at the residence of Miss Juanita Court Bogle, the residence of Rev. J. P. H. Crisman, who performed the ceremony.

Leesburg.—Arthur C. Bridges, son of J. Benjamin Bridges, of Sterling, and Miss Irene B. Morgan, daughter of Henry Morgan, of Washington, D. C., were married at Sterling by Rev. George W. Popkins.

Announcement has been made of the recent marriage of Miss Laura B. Hummer, daughter of Maurice Hummer, to Henry S. Ellmore, son of Thomas M. Ellmore, of Sterling. Mr. and Mrs. Ellmore will reside at Sterling, where the groom is a well-known merchant.

Danville.—Miss Lula V. Lynch, daughter of R. J. Lynch, formerly of this city, but now of Petersburg, and Thomas Burns, of Clarksburg, W. Va., were married at Pelham, N. C.

An open door lets the knocker out of a job.

Is Mere Man Getting Gay?

A casual comparison of the summer man of 1907 with the corresponding types of previous seasons would seem to indicate that he is increased frivolity the keynote of masculine modes. Marked male tendency toward rowdy raiment causes sober-minded to view the situation with alarm.

—Week's Cleverest Cartoon by Triggs, in the New York Press.

THE MARQUIS OF ITO WILL RULE KOREA

As the Resident General He Will Control.

THE EMPEROR A FIGUREHEAD.

Neither the Government Nor Any Legislative Body Can Enact Any Law or Carry Out Any Administration Measure Unless Approved by the Resident General.

Seoul (By Cable).—Iwan-Yung, premier of Korea, acting by authority of the Emperor, given under the Imperial seal at the palace, and Marquis Ito, resident general of Japan, signed the following agreement at midnight at the Japanese residence:

"The governments of Japan and Korea, in view of the early attainment of prosperity and strength in Korea and the speedy promotion of the welfare of the Korean people, have agreed upon and concluded the following stipulations:

"Article 1.—The government of Korea shall follow the direction of the resident general in connection with the reform of the administration.

"Article 2.—Korea shall not enact any law or ordinance or carry out any administrative measure unless it has the previous approval of the resident general.

"Article 3.—Judicial affairs of Korea will be distinct from ordinary administration affairs.

"Article 4.—No appointment or dismissal of Korean officials of rank grade shall be made without the consent of the resident general.

"Article 5.—Korean shall appoint as official position such Japanese as are recommended by the resident general.

"Article 6.—Korea shall not engage any foreigner without the consent of the resident general.

"Article 7.—The first clause of the agreement between Japan and Korea, dated August 22, 1904, is hereby abrogated."

The agreement abrogates the advisor system, especially affecting the finance department, under Alexander Megata, who now becomes a Korean official.

AT THE NATION'S CAPITAL

Some Interesting Happenings Briefly Told.

Director of the Mint Roberts announced the appointment of Kingsley Turner, of New York, as superintendent of the United States assay office at New York.

Manuel Iarabia, the Mexican who was kidnapped from an Arizona jail and taken across the border, was brought to Washington by the United States authorities.

New conclusions designed to encourage the manufacture of denatured alcohol were issued by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

Cyrus Phelps, despondent over the loss of his position in the Government Printing Office, committed suicide.

The report of the board which inquired into the battleship Georgia extensively damaged by the air blast attached to the gun being fired was still in operation several minutes after the gun ceased discharging.

As a result of charges of the poor quality of the paper used in postal cards, a change has been made at the plant where it is made for the government.

Upon the finding of the retiring board, Lieut. Col. Agnew, Seventeenth Cavalry, was placed upon the retired list.

The United States Navy Department has installed submarine fog signals on 19 big warships.

Admiral Cowles has ordered the equipment of a number of warships and colliers with the system of submarine bell signals.

The Department of Justice received from the Washington Typographical Union the resolutions condemning Public Printer Stillings.

The President has created a national forest reserve in Alaska.

COTTON GINNING STATISTICS

The Census Bureau Perfects Its Plans.

Washington (Special).—The Census Bureau has perfected its arrangements for collecting cotton-ginning statistics covering the cotton crop of 1907-8. There will be 10 reports, the first appearing September 5 and the last March 20. The intermediate dates of publication will be October 2, October 25, November 14, December 21, December 8, December 20, January 9 and January 23. In each instance, except in that of the March report, the statement will represent the condition of the crop about a week before the date of publication. The report of March 20 will deal with the condition on March 1.

As heretofore, the agents will be given six days in which to visit the ginneries and secure the returns. Summaries of these will be wired to the bureau on the last day of the canvass. On the day following the close of the canvass these telegraphic statements will be added and the results will be given to the public. The report will be printed and mailed within 24 hours after publication to all ginners and to all others interested.

Last season these reports were published at 2 P. M. on the day following the close of the canvass, but this season the bureau will endeavor to publish the results at 10 A. M.

The publication at that hour will permit the results to reach Europe within trading hours on the day that they are published in this country. It is in line with the earnest requests of European spinners for early cotton, and it is believed that by enabling them to form a basis on reports in their own market on the date of publication the fluctuations in the price of cotton and the chance of speculation in the product on these occasions will be lessened.

Between the hour of 6 P. M., when the canvass closes, and 10 A. M. the following morning, when the reports are published in Washington, no business is transacted on the exchanges in this country, and hence, under this system, Director North says, there can be no improper use of the information.

Two of the publication dates—September 5 and December 8—fall on Thursday, and the remainder on Monday.

14 KNOWN DEAD.

Another Telephone House Horror In New York.

New York (Special).—An explosion, accompanied by fire, shattered an East Side tenement shortly before midnight and, with the crumbling walls, at least 14 persons and perhaps more went down to death, while a score were wounded, fatally. Injured many jumped from the windows, others were caught by falling timbers, many half-suffocated by smoke were dragged from the hallways while still others suffered burns and wounds during the panic and mad fight among each other to escape.

U. S. AS "HOST."

Attitude Of This Country Toward Venezuela.

London (Special).—A cartoon in "Punch" directs the public attention from those persons who are of the opinion that the United States is responsible morally for the action of Venezuela in declining to submit to arbitration the claims that have been passed upon as just by The Hague conference.

The cartoon shows American republic in the shape of a monkey perched in a tree behind his cage, the label. The tree is labeled "Monroe Doctrine."

Standing beneath the tree are the "powers" with their hats in the air, the latter pointing up at the monkey saying:

"Come, sir, your monkey has taken my bag."

The monkey replies the genial and smiling Uncle Sam. "Ain't he cute?"

Fortune For Three Young Women.

Helena, Mont. (Special). — The Misses Bertha and Fredericka Voller and Miss Enton Kepner were apprised on the 28th of the receipt of information in German courts, they had become heiresses to a fortune of $600,000. The three young women will go to Germany shortly.

Juvenile Train-Wreckers.

Fayetteville, N. C. (Special).—Two diminutive negroes, 10 and 11 years of age, respectively, were placed in jail for attempting to wreck an Atlantic Coast Line fast train, 14 miles from this city, by placing cross ties on the track. The engineer's discovery of the obstruction averted a wreck.

Teller Runyan Pleads Guilty.

New York (Special).—Chester B. Runyan, the paying teller of the Knickerbocker Trust company who recently defaulted with nearly $100,000 of the company's funds, came into the criminal court and, on arraignment, pleaded guilty to the indictment charging him with grand larceny and was remanded for sentence. His counsel asked that the date be fixed for sentence, as Runyan needed a few days to attend to some personal affairs before being sent away.

Attorney Sent To Sing Sing.

White Plains, N. Y. (Special).—Alpheus S. Frank, a young lawyer, of New York, and a son of Brigadier General Frank, of the United States Army, who was convicted about two weeks ago of subornation of perjury in connection with a suit for damages against a trolley company was sentenced to a term in Sing Sing Prison of not less than two years and not more than three years by County Judge Platt.

It also affects the judicial department of the Korean government, for which a corps of advisors for all the provinces recently arrived from Japan. The Korean court opposed the plan, but had no alternative but to sign.

The agreement, as it is now proposed, is to take control very gradually, as there is a dearth in Japan of competent and available officials. A month's administration of Korean affairs would entail a draft of 1,200 officials and impose a deficit of three times the present revenues.

The organization of courts of justice will entail an immense burden, as no legal code now exists. The Japanese hope to obtain control of the Korean army, and it is expected that General Hasegawa will and Korean government.

Yesterday regarding further interference by the throne or former emperor in the administration of affairs, it is declared that one of the government has now ended. The Marquis Ito left for Seoul at the Japanese and Korean-Japanese counsel practically is Viscount Hayashi's agent of administration.

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tonement rose above the grocery and dwelling, the explosion is said to have accounted for only one the front of the building, and the fire that followed, caught the upper floors, being about 100 persons, while most of them were wound asleep. Others injured many jumped from the windows, others were caught by falling timbers, many half-suffocated by smoke were dragged from the hallways while still others suffered burns and wounds during the panic and mad fight among each other to escape.

NO COAL FAMINE IN THE NEAR FUTURE

It Is Not Even a Very Remote Possibility.

A STATEMENT BY MR. WOODRUFF

Valuable Statistics By Acting Head of Interior Department to Show That There Are Millions Upon Millions of Acres Under Which There Are Beds of Coal Yet Untouched.

Washington (Special). — That a coal famine is not necessary nor imminent is the opinion expressed by Acting Secretary Woodruff of the Interior Department. In a statement just made public he discusses the coal area as developed by the Geological Survey, saying:

"Not including great areas of bituminous coal and lignite, which will be mined only after the more valuable coal deposits are exhausted, the Geological Survey has developed that there are large areas in the states and territories west of South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas, aggregating in all over 60,000 square miles of land, each township of which contains under its surface, or part of it, workable beds of coal. The Geological Survey has been busy for several years past determining the location, quantity and workable qualities of these coal deposits. This work has been taken up with great energy during the present year, and two ships are now engaged in the work. Six thousand square miles in which workable coal beds have been examined and mapped.

"When one remembers that the classified areas are most conservatively estimated with reference to transportation and says that it is certain that every acre of them is subject to purchase under the provisions of the coal-land laws, and has been so entered, and that there is in the Eastern Pacific Railroad Company alone a request for the location of over 3,000,000 acres of coal, and also that many hundred thousand acres of coal land scattered thoughout the entire region contained in coal land passed into private holding, and a large number of locations on these lands plants, it is easy to see that it can be to be a coal famine next winter or that a famine will result from any failure to mine the coal which is easily accessible to the great railroads, purchase in the past by individuals and companies or entry at the present time under the law.

"The Geological Survey has parties of trained experts almost constantly scattered over the entire region examining the fields. These engineers are daily adding to the information in the hands of the country. It is believed that by January 1 of next year the United States known to contain workable deposits of coal will be classified and mapped.

Mr. Woodruff expresses the belief that the next Congress will pass a leasing law which will permit operation by responsible parties of more than the 640 acres now allowed to prospective purchasers.

Of the coal lands still held by the government, over 25,000,000 acres are known to contain workable beds of coal, and $20 per acre, over $20,000,000 is expected to be realized from the sale of this land. The same thing applied to the timber lands, and the sale of 4% of the timber will pay all the cost of surveying and disposing of the coal lands, leaving a handsome profit.

WANTS RARE CHILDREN.

Prof. Starr's Idea May Be Carried Out In Chicago.

Chicago (Special).—"Children should wear no clothing until they are 6 years old."

Prof. Fred Starr, of Congo explorer fame, made the statement at the University of Chicago, and shortly afterward it became known that several other university professors are to experiment on certain children. Starr himself is a radically constructed "paradise flats" at Fifty-sixth street and Lexington avenue.

"Children," said Prof. Starr, in his usual terse, emphatic fashion, "should not wear clothing until they are 6 years old. It is not a stitch, he added with even more emphasis than he made use of in the axe handle. Yes, there they are. They wedged a wooden

Then I set to with a will, the water splashed all over me. With each stroke of the axe I felt a tremor through toe pile on which I stood.

It seemed as if I had been chopping an hour. My heart was thumping against my ribs with the exertion, and the perspiration was streaming down my face, but I kept at it with the desperation of cold water that splashed on the head for a foot. Suddenly, without the slightest warning, there was a report like a muffled report, and then a stream of water came into my face, a hoarse cry came from somewhere, and I felt myself jerked from my feet high into the air, sinking, rising, and again sinking. When I had recovered my breath I heard a roar and a mighty splash, the whole structure of piled up logs on which I had been standing three seconds before collapsed like a house of cards, and the entire log went sweeping and eddying through the chute and over the rapids to the lake below. Either the handle of the axe broken or I had chopped it through, but no one ever knew which.

I don't quite know how they got me back on to the dam, for the first I knew I was standing there, holding a green piece of paper in my left hand that I knew to be the promised $10 bill, and a roar of laughter and grizzled faces close to mine, breathing great congratulations.—The Wide World Magazine.

A Useful Witness.

A witness was being examined as to the sanity of one of the inmates of the asylum. "Now, you say that this man is insane, do you?" a lawyer asked. "I do," was the firm reply. "Why? Why?" "Because," said the witness, in a loud, indignant voice, "I happen to be Santa Claus myself."—San Francisco Argonaut.

William street, in New York City, was known as "Three Mules and Cart street" back in the eighteenth century.

THE RIVER-DRIVER.

Told by T. J. Davis and Set Down by Ralph Stock.

One hears a great deal of the dangers of sports such as mountain climbing and big game shooting, and of trades such as that of the steeplejack, but very few Wide World readers, I imagine, have any knowledge of what is, perhaps, the hardest and most hazardous occupation on earth —river-driving."

Mr. T. J. Davis, who now resides in the Northwest Territories of Canada, knows, perhaps, as much as any man living of the dangers and fascinations of this trade, which should more properly be called log-driving.

Born in what was on the shores of one of those vast inland seas that so belie their insignificant title of "rivers," and that, joined by rivers, form a chain across Eastern Canada, he early acquired a love of the water and knows to those that have to depend upon it for a living.

The floating islands of logs sometimes half a mile in length, that proceed to the shore almost at the foot of his home, awaiting the splitting village of "river-drivers" to take them to the mills, where they are sawn into timber.

Here is the story of Mr. Davis' evolution as I told to me by himself.

It is a life that seems to get hold of one's blood, for I was born and generally wet through from the waist down, and I've grown accustomed to it. I've been in the water for eighteen hours out of the twenty-four, and have had to sleep in a wet bed for weeks at a time; you live on fried everything, and you're lucky if you get a change of clothes once a month.

Yes, all that sounds awful enough, I remarked, scathingly, but there was a log with any one of those things on the job. If I'm put off my log home and sit down, but if I'm not there, I want work at all a month for a start.

Then, a minute I found myself standing on one end of a small log in the middle of a big one, with my adversary, a hulking fellow with more hair on his body than on the bottom of his head, on the other.

Slowly at first the log began to move in the water, in answer to the efforts of my adversary's spikes, but quicker and quicker, till it fairly flew this way, then that, the log beneath us revolving after the manner of a woodpecker's bill. Then, suddenly, my log for would stop it altogether, and I had to wave my arms about wildly to keep my balance, but I kept it.

In the same time shouts were going up from the men who were watching the fight, "Go it, kid!" "Go it, him!" He can't get you!" "Look out, him, that the log for you!" "Look out, boy, for variation, fisherman would take a place!" Jump and now and me and my end the log clean out of the water, and I don't know exactly how it happened, but there was a splash of long arms and long legs, and my adversary splashed into the water a long way from me in the deep, and playful hippopotamus!

The roar of laughter went from the raft, and half an hour later I found myself installed in a small shack as "cook's devil" at a penny a day and board.

Here I stayed with my outfit for three months, river-driving in the spring and fall, and bush-working in the winter.

At the age of sixteen an opportunity happened my way that helped me out of the beaten track of river-driving. Every dog has his day, and this particular one was mine.

You must know that, to get the logs over rapids, the big lumbering companies have to build large dams at the edge of the fall to hold back the water, leaving a narrow passage way in the middle, through which the water rushes like a mill race, carryin' the logs swirling and tumbling over the rapids to the next lake. The greatest care has to be taken in sending the logs through this channel, and as many as fifteen to twenty men are required to keep them from "jamming." With all our care on this particular day a "jam" occurred. A log became wedged with one or two others right across the "chute," as the passage is called. The result was the same as invariably is. Hundreds of logs came floating slowly but irresistibly toward the chute with the current and found a resting place behind each other, with the dam as the foundation.

Hundreds more came sweeping on, and, finding the current too strong to allow them to rest behind their forerunners, piled themselves in a muddled heap on the top. The water began to rise, and more and yet more logs piled themselves up, till a solid wall of timber at least twelve feet high stretched across the chute behind the dam.

Meanwhile the river-drivers bounded on from log to log, risking their lives every second in the attempt to find the ringleader of the jammed logs, for if the jam had given way it would have carried every man to almost certain death.

"Somebody'll have to find those jammed logs and cut them," said the foreman, quietly, knowing full well that he was asking for some one to tempt death.

"Not for me," he continued, "I can't make any of you do it; unless some one offers I'll have to do it myself, but I'm kind of fancying my life's worth $10. "Then why stick at it?" I said, and I can answer to at just give it a fair trial for a year or two, you know.

As children we used to run out across the booms of logs, which is a form of amusement that you may light suppose. One of us, perhaps, would fall through, but such an accident never entered into the calculations of our companions. They would have considered seriously, begging them to log like a lot of monkeys, and not be ready for work.

Sixteen of the heaviest men were picked from the gang, and eight of them ranged on each side of the head of the jam. An axe was then handed to me, and hand over hand I was let out on one side and drawn in on the other till I hung suspended in midair mind a decking, and axe to work on it for ourselves when we did get there.

Have you ever tried to stand upright on a log perhaps a foot across and from 20 to 30 feet in an open lake, keeping your balance by every muscle in every one of the log? Well, if you had you would have realized that the slightest false stroke of the man who not only has his axe, but also maneuvre other logs with his feet, would send the whole pole, chain booms together with the logs, rolling and tossing as a mass that might sink from beneath my feet in any moment. I was only sixteen, and $10 was a lot of money to earn, apart from the glory of the achievement.

For several seconds I stood on the head, the axe, and the water-soaked log, considering the possibilities of the case, and then I gave a gruff shout from the foreman reminded me that there was work to be done.

Bending down, I swept the edge of the mass of logs; then I slowly slid the log to log down to the seething water below. Then, away were the jammed logs? That was the question.

Above me rose the butts and tops of innumerable logs. What if they gave way now, as I stood, a useless cake and seat your cake." See what happens to such people. Remember the days when Solomon built his temple from the cedars of Lebanon. Go to Lebanon and see what is left of the "forests of Lebanon" have dwindled down to a few hundred trees. And then look north and east and west from Lebanon to see that the very regions which produced such men as Solomon and David are now, as one of them said, peeled and stripped, that they are regions to which beggars would be ashamed to migrate. Take Asia Minor—minor with a vengeance! Here is a region which in all time supported the glories of Ephesus and Tarsus and Antioch—a region whose tributes made up such wealth as seems fabulous now—the wealth, indeed, of Croesus. And this Asia Minor is now a barbarous province through which adventurous travelers wear their way with difficulty, and where they speculate with doubt as to what was the site of one of the richest cities of the ancient world. For the people did not preserve their forests nor pretend to fix the limit of the land on which laid the golden egg. The cities were worn out by their beauty and it was more than beauty which was destroyed. The rivers which made the valleys fertile became the mountain torrents, dry in summer and cruel floods in winter, which carried devastation in their train, and yet which failed the valleys when they needed most the treasures of rain. The history of the decline of civilization in any region which has a written history is the history of the destruction of its forests.

If in New England to-day you send to a carpenter, and bid him make you a cabinet or a table made from the white pine which was the glory of our forests in the days when Paul and Josephus brought it, the carpenter will tell you that it will cost you about as much to use white pine as to use mahogany. Smaller and smaller have become the pine trees which you cut down for your annual service. There were days when your forefathers did not touch a tree with the axe unless the tree were 200 years old. To-day they can use the little trees for this and that service, though they should not be three years from the seed.

Here is our own deforested State of Massachusetts. For her railroads and her hospitals and other industries she has incurred large debts, not one of them over 50 years. But these debts are provided for by the sinking funds which grow and grow as the years pass by. And when the debts mature, money will be ready, for the funds have been the foresight of our Government. But think of the gain to Massachusetts, if from year to year she is busy planting each foreby where she is sure of the great ultimate of nature; in planting her bare, worn-out wilderness with the forests which will be almost invaluable in a few hundred years. She has not only planted many millions for her own use, but she has also planted millions for the use of other States, and they cannot make provisions for what she comes after them. But States live. Nature is always kind, and a State can invest with perfect security in its forest lands.

Such a policy as this has commended itself almost of course to the great forest nations of Europe. Consylvania. They have learned to rely upon the forests of the future, as Prussia does and Bavaria and Wurtemberg. The United States as a Nation need not be afraid of the same policy.

It is not impossible that the five States, watered by the Merrimac and the Connecticut, the Saco and the Androscoggin, may be called upon to unite in the annual service of preserving the White Mountain district. They almost own the power of three great rivers is a duty of this generation, and this water power can be preserved only by preserving the forests at their headwaters.

And the Sun Stood Still.

A postmaster, not many miles from Billville, posted the following notice on his shingle: "All parties expectin' mail are hereby notified to git all that's comin' to 'em in advance—any letters comin' after today, that bein' the day we have appointed to go huntin'—not havin' had a holiday from the Government since July 4, and the said Government seemin' to forget that bein' only human, we need rest and recreation occasional. There's some little mail left here for the Joneses and the Tompkinses—but it don't amount to much, as it's all got one-cent stamps on it. There ain't nuthin' much in the business nohow!"—Atlanta Constitution.

Some Youthful Definitions.

Among the answers to questions at a recent school examination were the following interesting examples of youthful misinformation: "Gross ignorance is 144 times as bad as just ordinary ignorance." "Anchorite, an old-fashioned hermit sort of fellow who has anchored himself to one place." "The liver is an infernal organ." "Vacuum is nothing with the air sucked out of it put up in a pickle bottle—it is very hard to get."—Harper's Bazar.

Quaint and Curious

Trees Are Money.

By EDWARD EVERETT HALE, in Christian Register.

Is it better for the Nation to have a million dollars in gold laid by in kegs in the basement of the Treasury or to have a million dollars of woodland which in thirty years will be worth five times what it is worth now? You meet very few people who understand or remember that every European nation now relies largely for its annual revenue on its forests.

Our people do not choose to remember—perhaps they do not like to remember—that a forest, from the nature of the case, can be taken care of by a Nation or a State as it cannot be taken care of by an individual. In the first place, the individual wants to see his profit within five or ten years at the outside. The Nation, because it never dies, can put forward the question of profit as no thrifty man dares to do.

Nations do not always choose to take this view. But the eternal law remains. "You cannot have your cake and eat your cake." See what happens to such people. Remember the days when Solomon built his temple from the cedars of Lebanon. Go to Lebanon and see what is left of the "forests of Lebanon" have dwindled down to a few hundred trees. And then look north and east and west from Lebanon to see that the very regions which produced such men as Solomon and David are now, as one of them said, peeled and stripped, that they are regions to which beggars would be ashamed to migrate. Take Asia Minor—minor with a vengeance! Here is a region which in all time supported the glories of Ephesus and Tarsus and Antioch—a region whose tributes made up such wealth as seems fabulous now—the wealth, indeed, of Croesus. And this Asia Minor is now a barbarous province through which adventurous travelers wear their way with difficulty, and where they speculate with doubt as to what was the site of one of the richest cities of the ancient world. For the people did not preserve their forests nor pretend to fix the limit of the land on which laid the golden egg. The cities were worn out by their beauty and it was more than beauty which was destroyed. The rivers which made the valleys fertile became the mountain torrents, dry in summer and cruel floods in winter, which carried devastation in their train, and yet which failed the valleys when they needed most the treasures of rain. The history of the decline of civilization in any region which has a written history is the history of the destruction of its forests.

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